

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT: GALLOWAY, Edward L.; PETERSEN, Eric; GOLIAS, Tipton

SERIAL NO.: 10/628,199

ART UNIT: 3731

FILED: July 28, 2003

EXAMINER: Nguyen, V. X.

TITLE: LOAD-CONTROLLED AUTO-ACTUATED SKIN INCISION DEVICE

Response A: REMARKS

In the Official Action, restriction was required between the two (2) inventions identified in the original application. In particular, restriction was required between the subject matter of Group I, namely Claims 1 - 12 and 19, as to a skin incision device including a housing, a blade, and a spring means for moving the blade; and Group II, namely Claims 13 - 18, as drawn to a skin incision device including a carriage element means positioned within the housing.

In reply to the Official Action, Applicant herein elects the subject matter of Group I, namely 1 - 12 and 19, as drawn to a skin incision device including a housing, a blade and a spring means for moving the blade. Applicant reserves the right to take such other measures as they deem appropriate so as to protect the subject matter of Group II, namely claims 13 - 18.

Applicant respectfully contends that an Official Action on the merits is in order and such is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

October 11, 2006

/s/ Andrew W. Chu

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